

No.

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DATE

March 15, 1960

SUBJECT: DESIGNATION OF GEORGE C. MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

The President announced today the designation of the NASA Huntsville Facility, located at the Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama, as the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center. The naming of this space research and development installation in honor of General of the Army George C. Marshall will formally take place with the dedication of the installation later this year.

The George C. Marshall Space Flight Center will be composed of the personnel and facilities now assigned to the Development Operations Division of the Army Ballistics Missile Agency which will be transferred to NASA on July 1, 1960. This group, headed by Dr. Wernher von Braun, has pioneered in the field of military missile development and space research. The von Braun team successfully placed the first American satellite in orbit on January 30, 1958. Dr. Wernher von Braun will become the Director of the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center on July 1, 1960, when the transfer takes effect.

In view of the President's decision to name this NASA installation the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center, all communications and directives relating to the Huntsville Facility will as of this date use this new designation.

Reid Eleman

Administrator